

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Affolter et al.  
Appl. No.: 09/936,367  
Conf. No.: 4325  
Filed: January 23, 2002  
Title: EXPRESSION OF PROTEOLYTIC ENZYMES IN KOJI MOLD IN THE  
PRESENCE OF CARBON SOURCES  
Art Unit: 1656  
Examiner: C. Kam  
Docket No.: 112843-029

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 17, 2006 regarding the above-referenced patent application.

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on February 17, 2006. The Office Action requires restriction between two alleged groups of invention: Group I (Claims 1-6, and 9-13); and Group II (Claims 7, 8, and 14-18). Applicants elect, without traverse, Group II (Claims 7, 8, and 14-18). Also, the Office Action requires an election of species. Applicants elect *Aspergillus* as the species. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims.

Respectfully submitted,

~~BELL, BOYD~~ & LLOYD LLC

BY \_\_\_\_\_

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Dated: March 17, 2006